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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/652,036	08/31/2000	Jeffrey C. Micher	0307-0144P	4552
30593	7590	08/02/2005	EXAMINER	
HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C. P.O. BOX 8910 RESTON, VA 20195			SPOONER, LAMONT M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2654	
DATE MAILED: 08/02/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

09/652,036

**Applicant(s)**

MICHER ET AL.

**Examiner**

Lamont M. Spooner

**Art Unit**

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 February 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6-23, 25-42, 44-61, 63-89 and 91-97 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6-23, 25-42, 44-61, 63-89 and 91-97 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 February 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Arguments***

1. In response to Applicant's arguments filed, 2/10/05, As taught by the applicant, words in the database that have a predetermined identifier, identifying the word as a word chunk, meaning that words with identifiers are word chunks. The words "a" or "l" can be used in the formation of other words, such as aardvark, aback, and abacus, or intent, intention, respectively for the words beginning with each stated word. In any ordinary word prediction, or auto-completion method which separates the suggested completion portion from the input character, by highlighting, or underlining or any other appropriate method of including a predetermined identifier (and as defined by the applicant, word ... such as "a", now interpreted as a word chunk, by applicant's definition "word chunk ... a word portion used in the formation of other words..." (p.9 para 3), wherein the separation of word to completion suggestion by highlighting and underlining means, is interpreted as identifying a word chunk, by the definition. As broadly claimed by applicant, even the suggested completion word "at" reads on the claims as written, wherein, the input character/word "a" provides the suggested completion "a~~t~~", or "at" wherein the underlining or not underlining of the portion of the word which is used to create a new word, thereby meeting the limitations of the claimed invention as currently claimed. The applicant states, page 22 para 2, "it would teach underlining of an entered letter such as "w" in the list of two letter combinations such as wh, we, wi; or the underlining of two entered letters such as wh for example, in a display of three letter

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groupings such as whi, whe, who.” By even the applicant’s understanding of the prior art, the claim is met using at least the example of the word “at” as explained above. Applicant further states, p. 22. para. 1, Mickunas ‘113 patent ... “identifies, at best, an input portion of selectable words”, Applicant further defines word chunks, specification p. 9 lines 16, 17, word chunk includes a word portion used in the formation of other words...” The Examiner interprets the input portion to be the word portion (word chunk), identified by one of Mickunas’ predetermined identifier methods, used in the formation of another word, thereby meeting the limitation as claimed.

In response to applicant’s arguments, pages 23-25 “Lack of Motivation to combine reference teachings”, the applicant’s position is that the arts are unrelated. However, as the applicant admits, page 24, para 1, O’Dell has a word prediction system, and the Examiner finds Mickunas, abstract, to have a method of using the contents of a data memory device and data inputted by an operator to extract additional data from the memory device until the operator determines that the device is displaying data he desires to see. The Examiner cannot concur with the Applicant’s opinion that the references are not related. The Examiner’s motivation to combine are thus appropriate, and well founded in the related arts as in each claim rejection provides support therein.

Applicant’s arguments with respect to the Official notice have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

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The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 1, 20, 39, 57, 72, and 86 (and all dependent claims, 2-4, 6-19, 21-38, 40-42, 44-56, 58-61, 63-71, 73-85, 87-89, and 91-97) are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Specifically, claim 1 (and similarly stated, independent claims 20, 39, 57, 72 and 86) directs one skilled in the art to, "displaying at least one of selectable words..., receiving a selection of a displayed word..., displaying at least one of selectable words...,", however ... then, "in response to receiving selection of a displayed word chunk...". The applicant has omitted the possibility of receiving a selection of a displayed word chunk in the path that the input character provides for the displaying and selection of only words..

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-4, 7-23, 26-42, 45-53, 55, 57 and 58 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Dell in view of Mickunas (US Patent No. 5,040,113 Aug. 13, 1991).

O'Dell and Mickunas are analogous art in that they involve word predictive methods.

As per **claims 1-3, 12, 20-22, 32, 39-41 and 49**, O'Dell discloses a word prediction method comprising:

displaying at least one of selectable words and word chunks in response to receipt of an input character (Page 7 lines 30, 31, Page 9 lines 11-36, fig. 4);

receiving a selection of a displayed word or word chunk (Fig. 4 selection of WH);

and

displaying at least one of selectable words and word chunks including a selected word chunk, in response to receiving selection of a displayed word chunk (Fig. 4 "WHI" "WHE" "WHA", -it is inherent to have a storage area from which word or word chunks are retrieved from, interpreted as a database).

a word chunk includes a word portion used in the formation of other words (page 5 lines 18-25-"we"-interpreted as a word portion used in the formation of at least the word wetter).

O'Dell does not explicitly disclose:

a word chunk includes a predetermined identifier, identifying it as a word chunk.

However, Mickunas teaches having a word chunk which includes a word portion used in the formation of other words and includes a predetermined identifier, identifying it as a word chunk (C.4.lines 18-29-The words "a" or "I" can be used in the formation of other words, such as aardvark, aback, and abacus, or intent, intention, respectively for the words beginning with each stated word. In any ordinary word prediction, or auto-completion method which separates the suggested completion portion from the input character, by highlighting, or underlining or any other appropriate method of including a

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predetermined identifier, Mickunas-underlining, blinking, highlighting, italics-C.4.lines 18-29, (and as defined by the applicant, word ... such as "a", now interpreted as a word chunk, by applicant's definition "word chunk ... a word portion used in the formation of other words..." (p.9 para 3)), wherein the separation of word to completion suggestion by highlighting and underlining means is interpreted as identifying a word chunk, by the definition. As broadly claimed by applicant, even the suggested completion word "at" reads on the claims as written, wherein, the input character/word "a" provides the suggested completion "at", or "at" wherein the underlining or not underlining of the portion of the word which is used to create a new word, C.3-C.4). Therefore, at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art to combine O'Dell with Mickunas. The motivation for doing so would have been to identify any prefix to the user, which will have information concatenated upon in constructing a word (C.4.lines 18-29).

O'Dell and Mickunas fail to explicitly disclose the predetermined identifier is a tilde. However, the feature of having a predetermined identifier to identify a word chunk is well known in the art. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a tilde instead of one of the predetermined identifiers of Mickunas, wherein using the tilde without producing any new and unexpected result involves only routine skill in the art, see *In re Lindberg*, 93 USPQ 23 (CCPA 1952).

As per **claims 4, 23, and 42** O'Dell and Mickunas disclose all of the limitations of claim 1, upon which claim 4 depends. O'Dell does not explicitly disclose:

the words and word chunks are in the German language.

However, O'Dell teaches (Page 2 lines 34-36 and abstract) the method is applicable to ideographic and non-ideographic languages and Western languages, which includes German. The Examiner takes official notice that German is considered a Western language. It would have been obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art at the time of the invention to provide the word and word chunks in the German language. The motivation for doing so would have been to reduce typos and misspellings for Western languages, from finding a word by selecting increasing complete words (abstract).

As per **claim 7, 26 and 45**, O'Dell and Mickunas disclose all of the limitations of claim 1, upon which claim 7 depends. O'Dell further discloses:

the input character is an alphabetic character (Page 9 lines 14-16).

As per **claim 8, 27 and 46**, O'Dell and Mickunas disclose all of the limitations of claim 1, upon which claim 8 depends. O'Dell further discloses:

the input character includes a symbol (Fig 8 item 76).

As per **claim 9 and 28**, O'Dell and Mickunas disclose all of the limitations of claim 1, upon which claim 9 depends. O'Dell further discloses:

the input character includes a symbol sequence (Page 17 lines 27-36, Page 18 lines 1-29).

As per **claim 10, 29, 30, and 47**, O'Dell and Mickunas disclose all of the limitations of claim 1, upon which claim 10 depends. O'Dell further discloses:

the selection of a displayed word or word chunk is received from an input device (Fig. 1 item 2, Fig. 4, Page 4 lines 11-13-touch screen palmtop).



As per **claim 11, 31, and 48**, O'Dell and Mickunas disclose all of the limitations of claim 1, upon which claim 11 depends. O'Dell further discloses:

the words and word chunks are in an agglutinated language (Page 17 lines 27-36, Page 18 lines 1-29).

As per **claim 13, 33, and 50**, O'Dell and Mickunas disclose all of the limitations of claim 1, upon which claim 13 depends. O'Dell further discloses:

the selectable words and/or word chunks, displayed in response to receiving selection of a displayed word chunk, include at least one additional word chunk including the previously selected word chunk (Page 11 lines 12-25-work screens are available chunk by chunk).

As per **claim 14, 34, and 51**, O'Dell and Mickunas disclose all of the limitations of claim 1, upon which claim 14 depends. O'Dell further discloses:

displaying, in response to receiving selection of a work chunk including the previously selected word chunk, at least one of selectable words and word chunks including the word chunk including the previously selected word chunk (Page 11 lines 12-25, Fig 7b items 64, 70, 72-chunk by chunk display).

As per **claim 15, and 52**, O'Dell and Mickunas disclose all of the limitations of claim 1, upon which claim 15 depends. O'Dell further discloses:

storing the displayable words and word chunks in a database (Page 10 lines 25-32).

As per **claim 16, 35, and 53**, O'Dell and Mickunas disclose all of the limitations of claim 15, upon which claim 16 depends. O'Dell further discloses:

the step of storing includes storing at least one code in association with each word and word chunk in the database (Page 9 lines 25-36-frequency codes).

As per **claim 18, 37, and 55**, O'Dell and Mickunas disclose all of the limitations of claim 16, upon which claim 18 depends. O'Dell further discloses:

the codes include frequency codes, with words and word chunks associated with the input character and a relatively high frequency code being displayed before words and word chunks associated with the input character and a relatively low frequency code (Page 9 lines 25-36).

As per **claim 57**, O'Dell discloses a word prediction method comprising:

displaying at least one of selectable words and word chunks including an input character, in response to receipt of the input character (Fig. 4, page 9 lines 11-36-page 10 lines 24); and

replacing the input character with a selected word chunk in response to receiving selection of a displayed word chunk (Fig. 4, Fig. 7a, 7b, page 9 lines 11-36-page 10 lines 24, the character "w" is replaced by a selected word chunk), wherein the selected word chunk is subsequently used in place of the input character for further word prediction (Fig. 7b-the word chunk "wh" is subsequently used for further word prediction in place of the original input character).

O'Dell does not explicitly disclose:

a word chunk includes a predetermined identifier, identifying it as a word chunk.

However, Mickunas teaches having a word chunk which includes a word portion used in the formation of other words and includes a predetermined identifier, identifying

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it as a word chunk (C.4.lines 18-29-The words "a" or "I" can be used in the formation of other words, such as aardvark, aback, and abacus, or intent, intention, respectively for the words beginning with each stated word. In any ordinary word prediction, or auto-completion method which separates the suggested completion portion from the input character, by highlighting, or underlining or any other appropriate method of including a predetermined identifier (and as defined by the applicant, word ... such as "a", now interpreted as a word chunk, by applicant's definition "word chunk ... a word portion used in the formation of other words..." (p.9 para 3), wherein the separation of word to completion suggestion by highlighting and underlining means is interpreted as identifying a word chunk, by the definition. As broadly claimed by applicant, even the suggested completion word "at" reads on the claims as written, wherein, the input character/word "a" provides the suggested completion "at", or "at" wherein the underlining or not underlining of the portion of the word which is used to create a new word, C.3-C.4). Therefore, at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art to combine O'Dell with Mickunas. The motivation for doing so would have been to identify any prefix to the user, which will have information concatenated upon in constructing a word (C.4.lines 18-29).

As per **claim 58**, O'Dell and Mickunas disclose all of the limitations of claim 57, upon which claim 58 depends. O'Dell further discloses:

displaying at least one of the selectable words and word chunks including a selected word chunk, in response to receiving selection of the displayed word chunk (Fig. 7b-in response to receiving a selection of "wh", "which" is displayed).

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6. Claims 6, 17, 19, 25, 36, 38, 44, 54 and 56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Dell in view of Mickunas and further in view of Kadashevich et al. (herein referred to as Kadashevich, US Patent No. 5,369,577 Nov. 29, 1994).

O'Dell, Mickunas and Kadashevich are analogous art in that they involve word predictive methods.

As per **claims 6, 25, and 44**, O'Dell and Mickunas disclose all of the limitations of claim 1, upon which claim 6 depends. O'Dell in view of Mickunas do not disclose:

displaying at least one morph of a selected word in response to receiving selection of a displayed word.

However, Kadashevich teaches displaying at least one morph of a selected word (C.7.lines 9-22). Therefore, at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art to combine O'Dell, with Kadashevich by modifying the display of O'Dell to include at least one morph. The motivation for doing so would have been to eliminate redundancy in the database of words, while providing all possible inflections of a word for user selection (C.4.lines 33-44).

As per **claims 17, 36 and 54**, O'Dell and Mickunas disclose all of the limitations of claim 16, upon which claim 17 depends. O'Dell in view of Mickunas do not disclose:

the codes include morph codes, and wherein morphs of the selected word are displayed in response to receipt of a selection of a displayed word including associated morph codes.

However, Kadashevich teaches

the codes include morph codes, and wherein morphs of the selected word are displayed in response to receipt of a selection of a displayed word including associated morph codes (C.24.lines 20-57). Therefore, at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art to combine O'Dell, with Kadashevich by having codes included with the morphs for O'Dell's display. The motivation for doing so would have been to make use of the codes in order to further morphologically analyze a word properly for further possible further processing to receive a desired final result (C.17.lines 24-41).

As per **claim 19, 38, and 56**, O'Dell, Mickunas and Kadashevich disclose all of the limitations of claim 17, upon which claim 19 depends. O'Dell further discloses:

the codes include frequency codes, with words and word chunks associated with the input character and a relatively high frequency code being displayed before words and word chunks associated with the input character and a relatively low frequency code (page 9 lines 25-36).

7. Claims 59-61, 63-89, 91-97 fall within the scope the previously rejected claims, and therefore are rejected.

### ***Conclusion***

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lamont M. Spooner whose telephone number is 571/272-7613. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richemond Dorvil can be reached on 571/272-7602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

lms  
7/15/05

Donald L. Storm  
PATENT EXAMINER  
AU 2654